



# WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

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## TO THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THE FALL CONFERENCE of the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association was held in Santa Barbara, September 21 through 23, 1959. This was a "workshop" meeting for State Board members, county auxiliary presidents and presidents-elect, branch chairmen, presidents, and presidents-elect and all other interested auxiliary members.

There were 129 auxiliary members registered at the conference, including the National Auxiliary president, Mrs. Frank Gastineau, 32 State Board members, 30 county presidents, 25 county presidents-elect, 13 branch representatives and 28 guests. Santa Barbara Auxiliary provided 12 hostesses to facilitate transportation from the airport and to conduct tours in the Santa Barbara area.

Mrs. Gastineau addressed the members attending the opening meeting of the conference on September 21 at the Santa Barbara Biltmore Hotel. She gave a most informative talk on auxiliary policies and the problems facing the medical profession today. In her summary she advised us to "remember that the bouquet handed to you by the government has been picked from your own yard."

At our dinner meeting on Monday evening honoring Mrs. Gastineau and Dr. T. Eric Reynolds, president of the California Medical Association, Dr. Reynolds spoke to us on "Problems of the Aging." He added ways in which the county auxiliaries might be of help in assisting the Homemaker Services and similar organizations that are already established in many communities to help the aged population.

Dr. Arlo Morrison of Ventura, a past president of the California Medical Association, Dr. William Quinn, president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, and Mr. Robert Huber, representing legal counsel for the C.M.A., shared the speakers' platform at our final meeting on Wednesday morning.

Dr. Morrison talked to us on legislation. He outlined the structure of the legislature with its 40 senators and 80 assemblymen. The California Medi-

cal Association has three full-time lobbyists and when the legislature is in session the chairman of the C.M.A. Legislative Committee and a member of the legal counsel for the C.M.A. attend the meetings for a total of five representatives for the C.M.A. Dr. Morrison also told how legislative bills are written and introduced and how these bills may be changed, rewritten or killed in committee.

Dr. Quinn set the stage for his more serious discussion of the "Attitude of the Doctor's Wife Toward His Profession and the Community" by relating a few anecdotes. He offered some excellent advice, most pertinent was that "the doctor's wife should learn when to keep her mouth shut."

Mr. Huber discussed the admission tax that affects the auxiliary fund raising projects. He stated that convention and conference expenses incurred by auxiliary members are *not* tax-deductible. Nursing scholarship funds that have been raised in the counties by ticket sales advertised for that purpose should not be used for other purposes, he cautioned.

We are indeed grateful to Drs. Reynolds, Quinn and Morrison and Mr. Huber for taking time from their busy schedules to come to Santa Barbara to speak at our conference. It exemplifies the unity and understanding between our Auxiliary and the California Medical Association.

During the conference a startling fact on Auxiliary membership figures was reported by Mrs. Warren Bostick, first vice-president and state membership chairman. There are 17,150 members in the C.M.A. and only 6,753 auxiliary members. In the unorganized counties there are approximately 200 doctors' wives eligible for membership while in the organized counties there are almost 10,000 doctors' wives in this category. We all have much work to do in the counties to interest eligible women in our auxiliary program.

Any C.M.A. member whose wife does not belong to the auxiliary is herewith urged to extend to her our special invitation to join us.

MRS. THEODORE A. POSKA  
*President, Woman's Auxiliary to the  
California Medical Association*